

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT
MARCH 28, 2022

Today's disciple is James, the younger, also known as James, son of Alphaeus. Although Matthew is described as the son of Alphaeus, most scholars do not believe that they are brothers.

We do not have the details about the calling of James, the younger (sometimes called "the less" because of his age), but we do know that he was an important person on the team of ministry. This James is always referred to in the Gospels in relation to his mother Mary of Clopas (see John 19:25). This passage indicates that he was the cousin of Jesus.

Most of what is known of this disciple comes from church historians. Historical tradition says that this James preached and shared the Gospel in Egypt and was crucified in the city of Ostrakine.

This James is one of the most obscure disciples. There is not much that can be said with certainty about him. As did the other disciples, it is likely that he played a significant role in sharing the Gospel in Eurasia and Africa.

One thing we know for sure, Jesus thought him worthy to be called as one of his disciples and to be one of the "sent ones." In the end, that is what matters.

Lord, there are many who do much and yet their names and their ministry are known only to You. They do not follow You for the acclaim of humankind, but because they love You and are committed to the calling which You have placed upon their lives. We thank You for James, the younger, and for all of those unnamed disciples. Amen. Pastor Louise